

Message Text

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SUBJ: I.D.E.A. CONFERENCE, CAIRO, EGYPT

REF: DEA 22344 DTD 8/10/78

1. BELIEVE TOPIC ON ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN U.A.E. NOTED
REFTEL SHOULD BE CHANGED AS INDICATED IN PARA 2, TO AVOID
PROBLEM OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITY AND FOR REASONS REPORTED BELOW:

A. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, COMPRISED OF SEVEN EMIRATES, CON-
STITUTES ONLY ONE OF THE SEVERAL COASTAL COUNTRIES IN THE
GULF AREA WITH WHICH TEHRAN DO CONDUCTS LIAISON.

B. THE COUNTRIES IN QUESTION, THE U.A.E., QATAR, BAHRAIN
AND KUWAIT HAVE EXPERIENCED A RECENT INCREASE IN DRUG
ABUSE. HOWEVER, IT IS STILL VIEWED AS A RELATIVELY MINOR
PROBLEM-CONFINED MAINLY TO FOREIGN WORKERS, IRANIANS,
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PAKISTANIS AND INDIANS. HASHISH AND OPIUM SMUGGLED IN
SMALL QUANTITIES AND PRIMARILY FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION,
ARE OF PAKISTAN DNA IRAN ORIGIN.

C. BECAUSE THE GULF STATES DIRECT ACCESS TO BOTH THE
PERSIAN/ARABIC GULF AND THE INDIAN OCEAN (THRU THE GULF
OF OMAN) AND PIVOTAL POINT FOR MANY INTERNATIONAL AIR-

LINES OPERATING BETWEEN EUROPE, THE U.S. AND THE FAR EAST, THEY FACE A REAL THREAT OF BECOMING A MAJOR TRANSIT AREA FOR NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE U.S. AND THE FAR EAST. IN ADDITION, CURRENT PROJECT OF A 24-MILE CAUSEWAY LINKING BAHRAIN WITH THE SAUDI MAINLAND(SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY 1980) WILL GIVE BAHRAIN ROAD ACCESS THROUGH THE MIDDLE EAST TO EUROPE.

D. AS EVIDENCED BY TEHRAN DO LIAISON REPORTING, ALL POLICE OFFICIALS CONCERNED HAVE REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED THE SAME CONCERN.

E. EVEN THOUGH THE COUNTRIES IN THE GULF TODAY LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY, THERE ARE STILL POLITICAL DIFFERENCES AND DISAGREEMENTS, WHICH ARE EVIDENT WHEN PROPOSING REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT OPERATION.

F. BAHRAIN POLICE RECENT COOPERATION AND WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT CURRENT ACETIC ANHYDRIDE INVESTIGATIONS BY SENDING THEIR REPRESENTATIVE TO U.A.E. (DUABI/SHARJAH) TO ASSIST BKA, ARE THE DIRECT RESULT OF TDO EFFORTS AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS DEVELOPED DURING THE PAST YEARS. COMMENT: PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND ARE THE KEY TO DOING BUSINESS WITH ARABS.

G. BAHRAIN POSITION IN THE GULF REGION AND FAVORABLE
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DISPOSITION TO THE U.S. IS LOOKED UPON BY TEHRAN DO AS VITAL IN PROMOTING REGIONAL COOPERATION. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GULF STATES IN THE ENFORCEMENT AREA HAS BEEN VERY MINIMAL.

D. IN ADDITION BAHRAIN, QATAR AND, TO A LARGE EXTENT U.A.E.'S FAVORABLE DISPOSITION TOWARD THE U.S. IS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO KUWAIT'S POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES, AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE CANCELLATION OF A PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED DEA TWO-WEEK INCOUNTRY SCHOOL. THEIR SUPPORT TO THE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT AND ISRAEL'S INVASION OF LEBANON HAVE HAD DIRECT IMPACT ON THE DEA LIAISON PROGRESS.

2. BASED ON THE ABOVE, TEHRAN DO WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT A TOPIC ON DEA TRAINING OBJECTIVES BY TR AND INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS BY EACH GULF COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE BE CONSIDERED IN LIEU OF ONE PARTICULAR SPEAKER DISCUSSING ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN THE GULF AREA. DEA TRAINING HAS ALWAYS BEEN A TOP PRIORITY AND OF GREAT INTEREST TO ALL OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

PLEASE ADVISE.

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